
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

**RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS
IN RE PETITIONS CHALLENGING 2012 LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL
SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) PERMIT (ORDER NO. R4-2012-0175)
(SWRCB/OCC Files A-2236(a)-(kk))**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public workshop concerning the receiving water limitations provisions in Order No. R4-2012-0175 (Los Angeles MS4 Permit). The public workshop will be held as follows:

**Tuesday, October 8, 2013 - 9:00 a.m.
Joe Serna Jr. - Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814**

The workshop will be conducted as part of a regularly scheduled meeting of the State Water Board. The Board members may provide direction to staff, but no final action will be taken until a subsequent, noticed Board meeting.

BACKGROUND

On November 20, 2012, the State Water Board held a workshop to take public comment on an issue paper discussing several alternatives to addressing receiving water limitations in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s). Information from that workshop is available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/rwl.shtml.

The State Water Board is now considering the particular approach to receiving water limitations established in the Los Angeles MS4 Permit. The Los Angeles MS4 Permit has been challenged in multiple petitions pending before the State Water Board and some of the issues in the petitions concern the receiving water limitations of the Permit.

The Los Angeles MS4 Permit appears to provide a compliance alternative to the State Water Board's precedential receiving water limitations for MS4s. Under the Los Angeles MS4 Permit, dischargers that are in compliance with the requirements and milestones of an approved watershed management program/enhanced watershed management program are also generally deemed to be in compliance with the Permit's receiving water limitations.

By a letter dated July 8, 2013, the State Water Board invited all interested persons to submit written comments on the following questions:

1. Is the watershed management program/enhanced watershed management program alternative contained in the Los Angeles MS4 Permit an appropriate approach to revising the receiving water limitations in MS4 permits?
2. If not, what revisions to the watershed management program/enhanced watershed management program alternative of the Los Angeles MS4 Permit would make the approach a viable alternative for receiving water limitations in MS4 permits?

Comments were due by August 15, 2013, and are available at:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/a2236_la_ms4_order_cmmnts.shtml

General information on the petitions challenging the Los Angeles MS4 Permit is available at:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/a2236_la_ms4_order.shtml

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At the public workshop, the State Water Board will hear oral comment on the questions posed above, including all comment that would assist the Board in determining whether watershed management program/enhanced watershed management program approaches constitute appropriate revisions or additions to the existing receiving water limitations language in MS4 permits. The State Water Board will not hear oral comment on issues in the petitions unrelated to receiving water limitations.

To ensure a productive and efficient public meeting in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral statements may be time-limited. Participants are encouraged to prepare panel presentations. The State Water Board may circulate an order of proceedings prior to the meeting.

PROHIBITION ON EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

The Los Angeles MS4 Permit is subject to the prohibition on ex parte communications.¹ Interested persons, therefore, may not communicate with State Water Board members regarding the above questions except through oral comments at the workshop and subsequent, noticed meetings and through submission of timely written comments.

WEBCAST OF WORKSHOP

A broadcast of the meeting will be available via the Internet and can be accessed at:

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>.

¹ Gov. Code, § 11430.10 et seq.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Cal/EPA Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board's Web site at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm>. The Cal/EPA building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5880 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

All visitors to the Cal/EPA building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located inside the main entrance. Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions may be directed to Ms. Emel Wadhvani, Senior Staff Counsel, at (916) 322-3622 or Emel.Wadhvani@waterboards.ca.gov.

September 13, 2013

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board